"ECEIVE"

1 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California RONALD L. DIEDRICH, State Bar No. 95146 2 Deputy Attorney General 3 California Department of Justice 1300 I Street, Suite 125 4 P.O. Box 944255 Sacramento, California 94244-2550 5 Telephone: (916) 324-5333 Facsimile: (916) 327-8643 6 E-mail: ron.diedrich@doj.ca.gov 7 Attorneys for Complainant 8 9 BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS 10 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 11 Case No. AC-2003-10 12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: OAH No. N2003040575 13 **ERNEST C. ROBERTS** STIPULATED SURRENDER OF 14 5803 21st Avenue Sacramento, CA 95820 LICENSE AND ORDER 15 Certificate No. CPA 6733 16 Respondent. 17 18 19 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties in this 20 proceeding that the following matters are true: 21 22 **PARTIES** Carol Sigmann ("Complainant") is the Executive Officer of the California 23 1. Board of Accountancy ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs. Complainant brought this 24 action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney 25 General of the State of California, by Ronald L. Diedrich, Deputy Attorney General. 26 Ernest C. Roberts is represented in this matter by Roy J. Fleischer, Sr., 27 2. Esq., whose address is 1611 "S" Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, California, 95814. 28

ERNEST C. ROBERTS, C.P.A. STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND ORDER, CASE NO. AC-2003-10 1

On or about June 18, 1957, the Board issued Certificate Number CPA 3. 6733 to Respondent. The certificate was in full force an effect at all time relevant to the charges brought in this action, and will expire on September 1, 2004, unless renewed.

Accusation No. AC-2003-10 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation, together with all other statutorily required documents, were properly served on Respondent on February 27, 2003. Respondent timely filed a Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. AC-2002-10 is

- Respondent has discussed with counsel, carefully read and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. AC-2003-10. Respondent also has discussed with counsel, carefully read, considered and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of
- Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel, at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the
 - Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, intelligently, and upon the advice of

Respondent agrees and acknowledges that the legal and factual allegations in Accusation No. AC-2003-10, if proven at hearing, would constitute cause for imposing discipline on his Certificate No. CPA 6733. For purposes of resolving Accusation No. AC-2003-10, Respondent also agrees and acknowledges that at a hearing the Complainant could establish

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such allegations.

- 9. Respondent agrees and acknowledges, that for the purposes of resolving Accusation No. AC-2003-10, and any future proceeding or other litigation before the Board or to which the Board is a party, the legal and factual allegations set forth in the Accusation No. AC-2003-10 will be deemed true and not subject to contest.
- 10. Respondent understands and agrees that on the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order accepting the surrender of his Certificate No. CPA 6733, he will lose the right to practice as a certified public accountant ("C.P.A.") in California.
- 11. Respondent understands and agrees that the surrender of his Certificate No. CPA 6733, and the circumstances surrounding that surrender, are part of his license history with the Board. If inquiry is made to the Board regarding the status of his Certificate No. CPA 6733, it will be reported that it was surrendered.
- Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue its Order, as described below, accepting the surrender of his Certificate No. CPA 6733.

CONTINGENCY

- understands and agrees that the Board's staff and counsel for Complainant may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order shall be of no force or effect. Except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile and/or photo-duplicate copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including facsimile and/or phot-duplicate signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

ACCEPTANCE 1 I have carefully read, discussed with counsel, and considered the above Stipulated 2 Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my 3 Certificate No. CPA 6733. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order 4 voluntarily, knowingly, intelligently, and upon the advice of counsel, and agree to be bound by 5 the Decision and Order of the Board. 6 7 DATED: <u>6</u> //// 8 Respondent 9 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent the terms and conditions and 10 other matters contained in the above Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I approve its 11 form and content. 12 13 DATED: 6/12/03 14 Attorney for Respondent 15 16 17 **ENDORSEMENT** 18 The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully 19 submitted for consideration by the Board. 20 21 DATED: 06-17-03 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General 22 of the State of California 23 24

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RONALD L. DIEDRICH

Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for Complainant

BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Case No. AC-2003-10			
OAH No. N 2003040575			
DECISION AND ORDER			
The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted by the CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY as its Decision in the above-entitled matter.			
ve on <u>August 29, 2003</u> .			
. 2003			
By WENDY S. PEREZ, CPA PRESIDENT, CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS			

Exhibit A Accusation No. AC-2003-10

1	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General		
2	of the State of California RONALD L. DIEDRICH, State Bar No. 95146		
3	Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255		
4			
5	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5333 Facsimile: (916) 327-8643		
6	E-mail: ron.diedrich@doj.ca.gov		
7	Attorneys for Complainant	·	
8			
9	BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY		
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11			
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. AC-2003-10	
13	ERNEST C. ROBERTS 5803 21st Avenue	ACCUSATION	
14	Sacramento, California 95820		
15	Certificate No. CPA 6733		
16	Respondent.	·	
17			
18			
19	Complainant alleges:		
20	<u>PARTIES</u>		
21	1. Carol Sigmann ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her		
22	official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Cali		
23	Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California		
24		e Board issued Certificate Number CPA	
25	6733 to Ernest C. Roberts ("Respondent"). The cert		
26	relevant to the charges brought herein and will expir	e on september 1, 2004, unless renewed.	
27	/// ///		
28	ACCUSATION CASE NO. AC-2003-10 1		

1	<u>JURISDICTION</u>		
2	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board pursuant to Business and		
3	Professions Code ("Code") section 5100, which provides, in pertinent part, that:		
4	After notice and hearing the board may revoke, suspend or refuse to renew any permit or certificate granted under Article 4		
5	(commencing with Section 5070) and Article 5 (commencing with Section 5080), or may censure the holder of that permit or		
6	certificate for unprofessional conduct		
.7	STATUTORY PROVISIONS		
8	4. Code section 5100 states, in pertinent part, that:		
9	[U]nprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, one or any combination of the following causes:		
10	(c) Dishonesty, fraud, or gross negligence in the practice of public		
11	accountancy or in the performance of the bookkeeping operations described in Section 5052.		
12	(i) Knowing preparation, publication or dissemination of false,		
13	fraudulent, or materially misleading financial statements, reports, or information.		
14			
15	5. Code section 5107, subdivisions (a) and (b), state:		
16	(a) The executive officer of the board may request the administrative law judge, as part of the proposed decision in a		
17	disciplinary proceeding, to direct any holder of a permit or certificate found guilty of unprofessional conduct in violation of		
18	subdivisions (b), (c), (i), or (j) of Section 5100, or involving a felony conviction in violation of subdivision (a) of Section 5100,		
19	or involving fiscal dishonesty in violation of subdivision (h) of Section 5100, to pay to the board all reasonable costs of		
20	investigation and prosecution of the case, including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees. The board shall not recover costs incurred at the		
21	administrative hearing.		
22	(b) A certified copy of the actual costs, or a good faith estimate of costs where actual costs are not available, signed by the executive		
23	officer, shall be prima facie evidence of reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution of the case.		
24	of investigation and prosecution of the ease.		
25	FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE		
26	(Unprofessional Conduct - Dishonesty)		
27	6. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 5100		
28	subdivision (c) in that Respondent engaged in dishonest conduct in the practice of public		

ACCUSATION CASE NO. AC-2003-10

1 accountancy. On or about April 30, 2001, Respondent issued reports with accompanying 7. 2 financial statements in which he dishonestly states that he conducted an audit for Hope Four You 3 Two, Inc., for the year ended December 31, 2000, in accordance with generally accepted auditing 4 standards and Government Auditing Standards, as issued by the Comptroller of the United States. 5 In fact, Respondent did not perform said audit. 6 7 SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE 8 (Unprofessional Conduct - Misleading Financial Statements) 9 Respondent is also subject to disciplinary action under Code section 5100, 8. 10 subdivision (i), in that Respondent knowingly published or disseminated a false, fraudulent, or 11 materially misleading financial statement, report or information. 12 On or about April 30, 2001, Respondent issued reports with accompanying 9. 13 financial statements in which he falsely states that he conducted an audit for Hope Four You 14 Two, Inc., for the year ended December 31, 2000, in accordance with generally accepted auditing 15 standards and Government Auditing Standards, as issued by the Comptroller of the United States. 16 Respondent issued said reports knowing that he had not in fact performed said audit. 17 18 /// 19 /// 20 /// 21 /// 22 /// 23 /// 24 /// 25 /// 26 /// 27 28

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the California Board of Accountancy issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking, suspending or otherwise imposing discipline upon Certificate Number CPA 6733, issued to Ernest C. Roberts;
- 2. Ordering Ernest C. Roberts to pay the California Board of Accountancy the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 5107; and,
 - Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: Lebruary 21, 2003

CAROL SIGMANN Executive Officer

California Board of Accountancy

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant